

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of June 25, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 13, 17, 21, 22, 25, 31 and 35 have been amended, while claims 10 and 28 have been previously canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-9, 11-27 and 29-38 are pending for consideration, of which claims 1, 7, 13, 17, 19, 25, 31 and 35 are independent. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, claims 1-9, 11-27 and 29-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,323,042 to Matsumoto in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,631,664 to Adachi et al. (hereinafter Adachi) and U.S. Patent No. 5,302,966 to Stewart. Applicants respectfully submit that none of Adachi, Matsumoto and Stewart teach or suggest all claim features as now recited in the claims.

Matsumoto is directed to an active liquid crystal display having a peripheral driving circuit element (Abstract) and Adachi is directed to a display device employing electrical light emitting surface light source elements (Abstract). The newly cited Stewart patent is directed to an active matrix electroluminescent display and associated method to produce gray scale operation.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7, 13, 17, 19, 25, 31 and 35 have been amended to at least recite "said lightly doped region is formed by an ion doping method, using said gate electrode as a mask." This feature is supported, for example, by lines 10-16 on page 10 in the specification as well as Fig. 10E. Applicants respectfully submit that this added feature is not disclosed in any one of Matsumoto, Adachi or Stewart. In the Office Action, Applicants note that column 3, lines 7-17 is employed to allegedly show the crystallized semiconductor layer having source, drain, and at least one lightly doped region. Applicants submit that a further review of Matsumoto does not further disclose how the lightly doped region is obtained. Moreover, Matsumoto appears to indicate that ion implantation is performed in step 42 while gate electrode deposition is performed in step 47 (as illustrated in FIG. 2 of Matsumoto). Thus, Applicants submit that Matsumoto does not

disclose that "said lightly doped region is formed by an ion doping method, using said gate electrode as a mask" as now set forth in each independent claim. Accordingly Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed features set forth in independent claims 1, 7, 13, 17, 19, 25, 31 and 35 are not taught or suggested by Matsumoto.

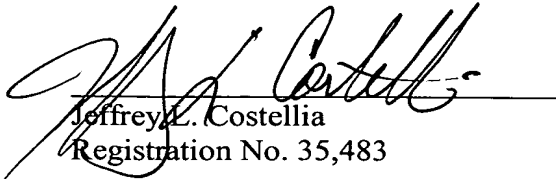
The requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness, as detailed in MPEP § 2143 - 2143.03 (pages 2100-122 - 2100-136), are: first, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference(s) to combine the teachings; second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success; and, finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. As the combination of the applied prior art references fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established in the §103(a) rejections.

Moreover, dependent claims 2-6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18, 20-24, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32-34 and 36-38 are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons described above with regard to the independent claims.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,


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